

STILLWATER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, September 2, 2009 7 p.m.
County Planning Office, 809 E. 4th Avenue N Columbus

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Clinton “Clint” Teegardin (President), Larry Gee (Vice-President), Jon Bourassa, Chris Fleck, Allen McMillen, Alvin Stadel, and Bob Van Oosten.

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Cynthia Colbert (proxy given to Allen), Adelbert Eder, Linda Halstead-Acharya, and Charles “Chuck” Krone.

STAFF: Cal Cumin, Melissa Kramer, Forrest Mandeville, and Marissa Plumb

GUESTS: Frank Goddard, Jerry Friend, Jeanine Lee, and Rick Lee

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Clint at 7 p.m..

II. MINUTES APPROVAL. Bob made the motion to approve the August 5, 2009 meeting minutes, Larry seconded; with all in favor; motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. CTEP (Melissa). Melissa, Stillwater County Economic Development Coordinator, spoke about the Federal Community Transportation Enhancement Program (CTEP) funding that is allocated to the County based on a per capita basis. Currently in the CTEP account there is \$154,500.00 of funding, but, with Federal Indirect Capital Accounting Program (ICAP) costs of 17.48%, the CTEP fund will have an actual balance of \$127,493.40. For additional information, refer to the CTEP handouts. There will also be a base balance left in the CTEP account, so that there is always a positive balance and assured funding for any project overruns that may be encountered during a project construction phase. Allocation of any additional funds on an approved project budget will be reviewed by the County Commissioners.

Three projects were proposed for this round of funding, but only two applications met all State CTEP requirements. The two projects requesting CTEP funding are the Fishtail Family Park and the old railroad depot in Reed Point.

Jeanine Lee from Fishtail presented the park project. The Fishtail Family Park was purchased by the community and recently was gifted some adjacent land to expand the park to almost double the current size. The proposed name for the expansion area is “Farroway.” Items needed, but not limited to, for the expansion of the park are benches, top soil, flowers, signage, a sprinkler system, and a new gate. Currently the park is used for weddings, Fishtail Family Fun Day, and other community gatherings. The park is located on Highway 419 (Nye Road) that goes directly through Fishtail, so the park is highly visible to drivers and currently draws people to stop.

Jerry Friend from Reed Point presented the train depot restoration. Part of the restoration has already happened. The depot was moved to a new location and placed on a foundation. The depot is accessible to sewer, water, and electricity on its new permanent lot. The moving of the depot to its new location was paid for by the community before Jerry knew there was County funding available. The restoration will be done in three phases. First phase is the exterior of the depot which needs, but is not limited to, paint, window, doors, and lighting. The second and third phases are renovating the interior. Inside there will be a community museum and a community center. (For estimates refer to the handout.)

Melissa stated that the only thing that needs to happen, with the approval of the Board, is that the Board Members need to feel that both of these projects are worthwhile and deserve CTEP funding to proceed. Upon County Planning Board recommendation, applications for each project will go to the Board of County Commissioners and then submitted to MDT (Montana Department of Transportation) CTEP Division for final approval. The financial aspect for each project was based on estimates from contractors. Estimates were all that was required on the CTEP applications, as certain line items may need to be adjusted after CTEP reviews the applications.

Jon said that both of these proposed projects are worthwhile and deserve to move forward. Jon motioned to approve moving forward with both projects; Chris seconded, and with all in favor, motion carried.

B. Road Improvement Districts (RID). Cal explained to the Board that the laws regarding some of the many types of special improvement districts have been simplified and put into one section of Montana Code, instead of scattered throughout. Because Road Improvement Districts (RIDs) are an issue the County has dealt with in the past and is expecting to deal with more in the future, the County Commissioners have requested the Planning Department prepare a handout to be distributed to parties interested in forming an RID. The handout explains the steps involved in forming such a district. This handout does not need Board approval but will be presented to the County Commissioners at a later date.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Update of Subdivision Regulations Changes. The Subdivision Regulations are scheduled before the BOCC for a public hearing on October 7, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in their office on the second floor of the Court house.

B. Update on Decay Ordinance. Cal informed the Board of additional changes made to the proposed Stillwater County Community Decay Ordinance. (Reference the changes from last month's County Planning Board meeting) Allen motioned to send the ordinance to the BOCC; Alvin seconded, and with all in favor, motion carried.

OTHER:

A. Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC). Cal said the LEPC is recommending the Planning Office be in charge of getting subdivision signage from the Road and Bridge Department (R&B), bringing it all to the Planning Office, and distributing it out of the Planning Office to subdividers. The Road and Bridge Department apparently does not want the public on their grounds. Several Board members pointed out that the R&B may not legally be able to bar people from having access to a public office.

B. Dry Hydrants. Larry mentioned the term “dry hydrant” is an oxymoron and would not mind the name being changed. Bob agreed the term can be confusing, but he outlined the history of how the term “dry hydrant” came about.

C. Rosebud Preserve Subdivision. Bob brought to the attention of the Board that Rosebud Preserve Subdivision, proposed by Lincoln Powers several years ago, may be coming through the County Planning Board again soon. It is has been held up in by other agencies because of concerns the proposed bridge may raise water levels in East Rosebud Creek.

V. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned by Clint at 8:16 p.m..

Marissa Plumb
Administrative Assistant